

**Grandmother's Scrapbook**  
**Craft Clippings from Early 20th Century U.S. Newspapers**

# **Joan of Arc**

**A French Tale to Color and Cut Out**



A version of the French tale adapted as a color and cut out version.

Edited by Helen Hough

**James G Collins & Associates**  
**2021**

## Joan of Arc: A French Tale to Color and Cut Out

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Series: Grandmother's Scrapbook: Craft Clippings from Early 20th Century U.S. Newspapers

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In this edition, the original images and text from 1925 have been modified slightly from the original sources. This tale was published in several newspapers across the United States and Canada in late 1925. Although there may be more newspapers than listed here, they include *Evening Star* (Washington DC), *New Britain Daily Herald* (New Britain, CT), *Oakland Tribune* (Oakland, CA), and *San Antonio Express* (San Antonio, TX).

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Dedication: Riccardo – Still thinking this year's goal.

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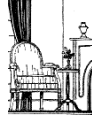
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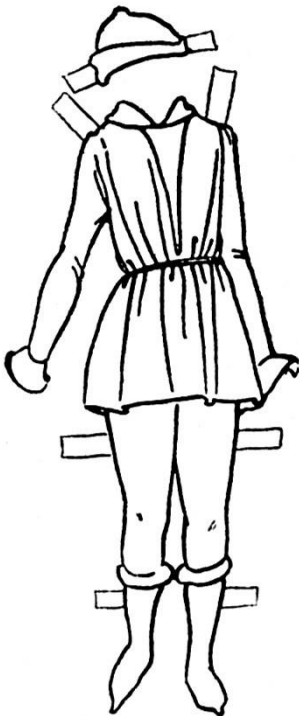


## 1. The Maid of Orleans

Many are the stories the French tell of their own special patron saint, Joan of Arc, who by her bravery and courage restored the kingdom of France when it was crumbling to pieces.

Joan of Arc was just an ordinary little peasant girl. She was born in Domremy, a small village on the left bank of the Meuse, on the sixth day of January 1412. The valley in which Joan lived was fair and fertile, full of beautiful flowers, birds and trees. In her early years Joan used to run and play over the hills with the other little boys and girls but as she became older she was pointed out as different from the others, she was more sober and thoughtful.

Joan at the age of seventeen when she heard her country's call.

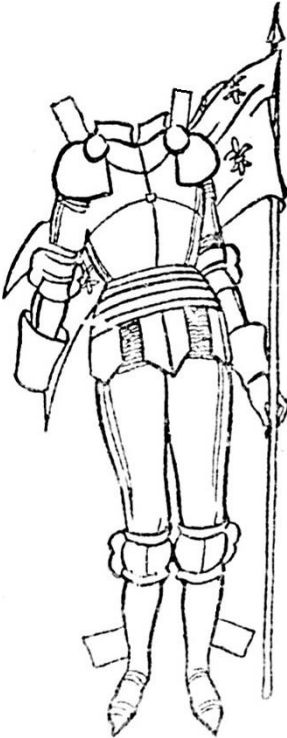


## 2. Prophecy of Merlin

Now there was a prophecy current in France at the time that Joan lived, an old prophecy of Merlin, that "the kingdom lost by a woman shall be saved by a woman." The woman who had lost it was Isabeau of Bavaria, the wicked queen. In the east of France it was said that the deliverer was to be a maid from the marshes of Lorraine.

Joan knew of this prophecy and in her mind it became blended with her own ardent faith and high aspirations. Night and day the child brooded on the sorrows of her country. She fasted regularly and went often to confession, so often, indeed, that her young companions scolded her for being over-religious.

The man's costume that Joan wore to answer the call of her country.



### 3. The Voice

One day when Joan was thirteen years old, she was in her father's garden at noon. Suddenly there appeared to her over the nearby church a dazzling light and out of the light a voice spoke. "Be a good girl, Joan, and go often to church." it said.

At first Joan was very much frightened, but soon the voice told her of the "sorrow there was in the kingdom of France," and warned her that it would be her mission to go and carry help to the King.

Suit of armor Joan wears entering battle at the head of the French army.



### 4. "Go Into France"

Meanwhile the dangers of France darkened and thickened. The English leader, Salisbury, was on his way to Orleans and the French king, Charles, poor, indolent, and ill-advised, was debating whether he should retreat into Spain or Scotland.

The voice which Joan heard became more frequent and more urgent. The word now was always, "Go—go into France! At last it told her the way to go. "Go," said the voice, "to Vancouleurs, to Robert de Baudricourt, the governor; he will give you men-at-arms, and send you to the king."

The long, black gown Joan wears when cast into prison at the end of her life.



## 5. Joan Goes to Governor

It was now that Joan's great trial began. As long as the voice had merely spoken vaguely of some "deliverance of France" which she was to bring about some time in the future she had listened with joy. But now that it plainly showed her the first step she was filled with alarm. How could a modest peasant girl brave the governor of Vaucouleurs? How could a child with no more experience than she had venture among rude men-at-arms?

But Joan knew her duty. With the help of her uncle, in whom she had confided, she gained an audience with the governor. Baudricourt merely laughed at the young girl in her rough peasant's dress. He bade her uncle chastise her and send her home to her father.

Baudricourt, Governor of Vaucouleurs.



## 6. To the Aid of the King

But Joan was not discouraged. "I must go to the Dauphin" she said, "though I go on my knees." The people of Vaucouleurs believed in her with the ready faith of that time. They gave her a horse and the dress and equipment of a soldier. At last, even Baudricourt was persuaded by her persistency and promised to send her to the king. After many delays, on February 23, 1423, Joan and her company of soldiers set out for the palace of the king, Baudricourt bidding her, "Go, come of It what may."

Baudricourt's governor's robes



## 7. Before the King

It was a very perilous journey that Joan undertook to reach the king, over half of the way leading through the enemy's territory. When she finally reached the king, more difficulties awaited her. She was made to wait two days before she was finally admitted to the castle.

When Joan entered and knelt before Charles, he pointed to a richly dressed lord, saying: "That is the king, not I."

But Joan could not be tricked. "In God's name. Gracious Prince," she answered, "you are he and none other." Then she repeated the words which had brought her safely thus far. "I am Joan the Maid, sent by God to save France."

Dauphin Charles, soon to be crowned king.



## 8. Joan Enters Battle

The King and his advisers cautiously set to work to inquire into Joan's character and past life. They sent two monks to Domremy to find out all they could about her. Meanwhile she was kept at the palace and treated kindly. Gradually the commissioners were convinced by the simplicity and earnestness of the maid. No one could discover anything in either her life or character of which to complain.

Charles was not easily convinced, but he was in such sore need of help that when the learned authorities decided in her favor, he placed Joan in command of the army to raise the siege of Orleans.

Charles' cloak of red velvet



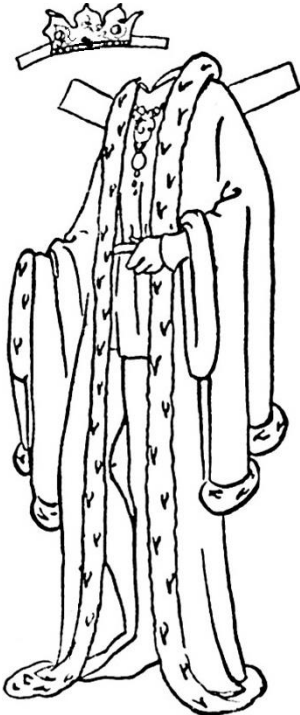


## 9. Victory at Orleans

Arrayed in her golden armor, carrying her beautiful banner, Joan was a striking figure as she rode forth at the head of an army of 10,000 men. She seemed a supernatural being to the soldiers and as she led them forth they felt sure of victory. Her skill in managing the forces astonished even the veteran generals. Her enthusiasm electrified the men. Under her leadership they drove the English from Orleans and rescued the city as she had promised the king to do.

One victory followed another until the English, too, believed her more than human and were glad to leave France.

The king's suit of armor



## 10. Dauphin Crowned King

Now was the time while the English were weak and disheartened, thought Joan, for the King to go to Rheims to be crowned. She promised that if he would come at once she would conduct him there safely and without hindrance.

But the indolent Charles demurred at going. He hated trouble and his life in the south had been pleasant enough. It was only after many months that Joan was able to persuade him to set out for Rheims.

Wonderful preparations were made for the crowning of the King. Joan was hailed as the savior of France and given highest place at the coronation. Among those who witnessed her triumph was her old father who had come to Rheims to see her.

The royal robe of the king



## 11. Imprisoned

Joan now asked leave to return home, saying that her mission was fulfilled. But she was not allowed to go back to her peaceful valley. All France wished to honor the young girl who had been the savior of the country.

Then came the tragedy. She was betrayed into the hands of the English, who deemed her a sorceress and cast her into a dungeon, bound by double chains, so she could not escape. After suffering all sorts of cruelties, she was brought to trial. The wicked Canon Loyseleur came to her in disguise and gained her council by telling her that he, too, was a prisoner, a loyal subject of King Charles and a native of her own province. He gave her advice, wicked and cruel advice, which made it much worse for her rather than better.

The wicked Canon Loyseleur.



## 12. Victory After Death

After a year of trial, the Maid of Orleans was condemned to death. On the 24th day of May 1451, she was led from prison wearing a long black gown. A guard of 800 soldiers surrounded her to keep off the crowd. But suddenly there rushed through their ranks a haggard and miserable figure. It was Nicholas Loyseleur, who, seized by remorse, had come to ask forgiveness. But before he could reach her the soldiers drove him back. Joan probably neither saw nor heard him for she was weeping and praying continuously.

She called for a priest, who heard her confession, then bravely she went to her death, saying, "My voices have not deceived me."

The French people soon saw that they had made a terrible mistake, but it was too late. In spite of her tragic death, however, the marvelous deeds of Joan of Arc will always keep her name at the forefront of the world's great leaders.

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